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Biographical Statement of Jodi Gillette Deputy Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs for Policy and Economic Development U.S. Department of the Interior

Jodi Gillette, an enrolled member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in North Dakota and South Dakota, is the Deputy Assistant Secretary to the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs for Policy and Economic Development in the U.S. Department of the Interior. She was appointed to her post by Assistant Secretary Larry Echo Hawk on January 10, 2011.

Prior to joining the Assistant Secretary's staff, she had served since February 2009 as the Deputy Associate Director of the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and Associate Director of Public Engagement, where she was responsible for the communication and interaction between tribal nations and the President of the United States. She was responsible for pulling together the White House Tribal Nations Conference in 2009 and 2010, where the President hosted tribal leaders from across the U.S. to identify actions to fulfill his commitment to strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship with American Indian and Alaska Native tribal communities.

Ms. Gillette came to the White House after serving as state director of the Obama Campaign for Change's First American Vote initiative in North Dakota.

Prior to that, Ms. Gillette had served as executive director of the Native American Training Institute in Bismarck, a non-profit offering technical assistance and training to tribal, state and local governments in the area of human service delivery systems. She also had served as an economic development planner for her tribe in Fort Yates, N.D.

Ms. Gillette holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Government and Native American Studies from Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H. (1991) and a Master of Public Policy degree from the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs in Minneapolis (2003).

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Ms. Gillette has held and received numerous awards and honors during her career including the Tucker Fellowship, Rockefeller Fellowship, Lawrence Marx, Jr., Award and the Mellon Minority Academic Fellowship from Dartmouth. She also served as president of the Native Americans at Dartmouth, a student organization (1989, 1990) and was a Bush Foundation Leadership Fellow (2002-2004).

She also has authored and co-authored a number of publications on American Indian child welfare research and Native American family service curricula.

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